

1. Acquisition of Prairie and Grasslands at Pioneers Park Nature Center to protect 228 acres of native prairie and grasslands, and provide educational opportunities to explore the native landscape and wildlife of eastern Nebraska. *(background photo)*

2. Parker's Pals Scholarships for low-income youth who want to participate in programs facilitated by the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department.

3. Park Middle School Teen Center, a partnership with the Lincoln Public Schools to convert an unfinished space into a before-and-after school activity center for teens.

4. Jamaica North Trail Bridge along a 6.5-mile abandoned rail corridor from 27th and Saltillo Road, connecting north to downtown Lincoln. This funding will convert an existing railroad bridge for trail use.

Your Donation Will Help Fund These Projects in 2004:



5. Sunken Gardens Restoration will help finish the capital campaign to help make this nationally recognized 73-year-old garden accessible, safe and enjoyable for future generations.

Thanks for Caring, Lincoln!

In 2003, your donations to Lincoln Cares funded the following projects and programs which enhance the quality of life in our community:

- Air Conditioning for the Ager Indoor Playground
- Renovation of Four Wars Memorial
- Air Conditioning for the Bethany Shelter
- Scholarships for Low-income Youth
- Renovation of Sunken Gardens

Please consider adding a dollar each month to your LES bill for Lincoln Cares—you will help beautify and strengthen our community!

Now in its second year, "Lincoln Cares" is a voluntary donation program that offers customers of the Lincoln Electric System (LES) an opportunity to add \$1 each month to their bill to provide funds for community programs and projects that are not currently supported by the City budget.

As they did in 2003, **TierOne Bank** and **World's Foremost Bank (Cabela's VISA Operation)** will generously provide a 50-cent



match for every dollar contributed by customers—up to \$30,000 each. *So your donation essentially doubles with support from our corporate funding partners.*

The public-private Lincoln Cares Advisory Board each year identifies community projects that will receive the contributions. The goal is to give

citizens a chance to "take the extra step" to help their community through this voluntary donation process.

LES now makes it possible for automatic bank bill customers to participate in Lincoln Cares. If you are one of LES' automatic bank bill customers, all you have to do is call 475-4211 or log on to www.les.com to access

NEW THIS YEAR!

the necessary authorization form. If you want to sign up for automatic bank billing, please follow the same process. *This makes it easy for you to contribute to Lincoln Cares, just \$1 per month!*

www.ci.lincoln.ne.us

402-441-8264

Lincoln, NE 68502

2740 "A" Street



The City of Lincoln thanks you for supporting Lincoln Cares. A big thank you also to our corporate sponsors—TierOne Bank and World's Foremost Bank—for providing matching dollars to this community program.

Q: How can I participate in Lincoln Cares?

A voluntary \$1 donation option has been added to your monthly LES bill. Simply pay the "Total including Lincoln Cares donation" as listed on your bill and \$1 will be automatically donated to Lincoln Cares.

Q: I pay my LES bill through a direct deduction from my bank account. Can I ask LES to automatically add one dollar each month for Lincoln Cares?

Yes! LES now makes it possible for automatic bank bill customers to participate in Lincoln Cares. All you have to do is call LES at 475-4211 or log on to www.les.com to access the necessary authorization form. If at anytime you want to discontinue your voluntary contribution, simply notify LES.

Q: What if I don't want to participate in Lincoln Cares?

A: Customers who do not wish to add the \$1 voluntary donation should pay the sum on their bills titled "Amount Due to LES." *Lincoln Cares is a voluntary program.*

Q: What kinds of projects are considered?

A: City projects not included in the regular City improvement budget that benefit a large number of citizens, particularly low-income residents, receive high priority. This voluntary program aims to be an augmentation of tax funds, not a substitution of tax, to enhance our community.

Frequently Asked Questions about Lincoln Cares

Q: Is my donation tax deductible?

A: Yes, your donation to Lincoln Cares is fully tax deductible.

Q: What if I want to donate more than \$1 per month to Lincoln Cares?

A: Please do not send more than \$1 to LES for Lincoln Cares. If you would like to donate more than \$1 to this program, please send a check made payable to "Lincoln Cares" to the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Foundation, 2740 'A' Street, Box 201, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68502. These donations can also be used as tax deductions.

Q: Who decides which projects benefit from donations to Lincoln Cares?

A: The Lincoln Cares Advisory Board, a public-private entity of seven members, studies and recommends projects to benefit from this voluntary donation program.

Q: Why doesn't the City fund these programs?

A: The City of Lincoln currently provides money to community projects and agencies, but the need is far greater than what the City can provide. This is why we need your help!

Q: Why should I contribute to Lincoln Cares?

A: In its first year, Lincoln Cares collected nearly \$150,000 from LES customers and its corporate sponsors to pay for programs and improvements to the Lincoln parks system. By improving our parks system, Lincoln Cares benefits everyone and makes Lincoln a better place to live!

Q: How can I learn more about Lincoln Cares?

You can call (402) 441-8264 or go to: www.ci.lincoln.ne.us

